

5. (Previously amended) The coating composition of claim 24 further comprising a lubricant.

6.-9. Canceled.

10. Canceled.

11. Canceled.

12.-19. Canceled.

20. (Previously amended) The aqueous coating composition of claim 26, wherein the viscosity-modifying agent is selected from the group consisting of alkyl celluloses, acrylamide polymers and mixtures thereof.

21.-23. Canceled.

24. (Currently amended) A coating composition for an article comprising:

a superabsorbent water-soluble polyacrylate polymer precursor in aqueous solution, ~~the superabsorbent water-soluble polymer precursor being a polyacrylate selected from the group consisting of water-soluble polyacrylates that cross-link when heated within a range of temperatures that permits a cross-linked polyacrylate formed therefrom to absorb water upon contact and to desorb water when dry~~ which, when applied to at least a portion of a surface of an article and the article is heated to about 280°, the polyacrylate polymer precursor cures by cross-linking to form a superabsorbent polyacrylate polymer coating having a swell capacity of up to about 400 times an initial dry weight of the polyacrylate polymer.

25. Canceled.

26. (Currently amended) An aqueous coating composition comprising:
a superabsorbent water-soluble polyacrylate polymer precursor in aqueous solution,
wherein ~~said~~ the superabsorbent polyacrylate polymer precursor is one of selected from the
~~group consisting of~~ an anionic alkali salts salt and an alkali metal salt salts of a
superabsorbent polymer;
a viscosity-modifying agent; and
a binder,
wherein when the aqueous coating composition is applied to at least a portion of a
surface of an article and the article is heated, the composition dries and the polyacrylate
polymer precursor cures by cross-linking to form a superabsorbent polyacrylate polymer
coating having a swell capacity of up to about 400 times an initial dry weight of the
polyacrylate polymer.
27. Canceled herein.
28. Canceled herein.
29. (Currently amended) The coating composition of claim 24 wherein the ~~water-soluble~~
~~polyacrylates are~~ water-soluble polyacrylate polymer precursor is one of selected from the
~~group consisting of~~ an anionic alkali salts salt and an alkali metal salt salts of a water-soluble
~~polyacrylate.~~
30. (Previously presented) The coating composition of claim 24 further comprising:
a binder, the binder being selected from the group consisting of thermosetting binders
compatible with the superabsorbent water-soluble polymer precursor in aqueous solution such
that mixture of the superabsorbent water-soluble polymer precursor and the binder is
promoted.

31. (Previously presented) The coating composition of claim 30 wherein the binder is a thermosetting binder selected from the group consisting of a polyester, a polyurethane, an epoxy, latex and combinations thereof.

32. (Previously presented) The coating composition of claim 31 wherein the thermosetting binder includes a film-forming polyurethane.

33. Canceled herein.

34. (Previously presented) The aqueous coating composition of claim 26 wherein the binder is a thermosetting binder selected from the group consisting of a polyester, a polyurethane, an epoxy, latex and combinations thereof.

35. (Previously presented) The coating composition of claim 34 wherein the thermosetting binder includes a film-forming polyurethane.